

## Foundation Principle of National Parks System Hit Extremely Hard



From a Drawing by Dean Babcock

## BULLETIN

Issued for the Information of Members of the

## NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

1512 H Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C.

ROBERT STERLING YARD  
Executive Secretary

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## A SPOTTED NATIONAL PARK FOR NEW MEXICO

*The United States Senate Passes Bill Introducing Into the National Parks System Water Power, Irrigation, Hunting, Mining, Grazing, Leasing of Mining and Grazing Privileges, Timber Cutting, and Authority to the Secretary of the Interior to Choose and by Inference "Surrender" Park Areas.*

*Bill Re-drafted by Secretary Fall, who Urges its Immediate Adoption.*

THE earnest attention of the public, of the House of Representatives, and of the United States Senate, is called to the Mescalero Indian Reservation and All Year National Park Bill "defining the rights of the Mescalero Apache Indians in the Mescalero Indian Reservation (New Mexico), providing an allotment of certain lands therein in severalty to the Mescalero Apache Indians, and creating and defining the All Year National Park."

We especially call the attention of the Senate to it because, though the Senate passed the bill on July 7, the stenographic minutes of the session published in the Congressional Record the next day do not show that the Senators who voted for it knew what they were voting for.

## What the Senate Apparently Didn't Know

The following facts, for instance, were not brought out before the little group of Senators present when the bill was called up:

That the All Year National Park, which this bill will create, is to consist of a dozen or more widely-separated spots, wholly unconnected, most of which are not defined in the bill but left for the Secretary of the Interior to pick out afterward. There is no restriction to the number or choice of spots except that the group within the Indian reservation shall not aggregate more than three and one-eighth square miles, total area.

That besides those in the reservation, another separate spot, known as the Mal Pais Lava Beds, is forty miles outside the reservation group, across a desert.

That another separate spot, known as the White Sands or Gypsum Hills of Otero County, is thirty-eight miles outside in a different direction.

That still another separate spot, consisting of the Elephant Butte Reservoir, is ninety miles outside in still a different direction.

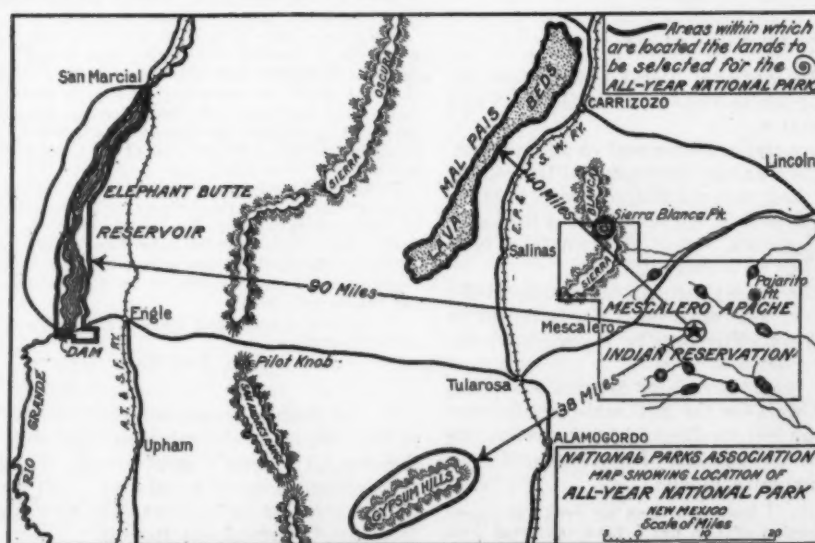
That they were voting for a national park which, if maintained after the standard of other national parks, would require a relatively large ranger force, besides many miles of telephone to connect the spots.

That bringing the Elephant Butte Reservoir into the National Park System meant introducing water power and irrigation into it.

And, not knowing all this, they did not know that millions of organized national park defenders, who have been fighting for nearly three years to keep power and irrigation out of the National Parks System, would immediately fill the country with their protests.

So the Senate passed this bill unanimously.

## The All Year National Park



EXPLANATION: The circled spots in the Indian reservation which look like lakes, but aren't, show the way the little national park areas will be spotted around on the stream bottoms. These do not indicate actual locations; those are left for Secretary Fall to choose. Secretary Fall will also choose the spots in the Bad Lands and White Sands.

The circumstances of the passage of this bill will seem extraordinary to most persons.

The bill was introduced on April 28 last by Senator Bursum of New Mexico, who has succeeded to Secretary Fall's place, and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs. Its apparent main purpose was to confirm certain rights of the Indians occupying the Mescalero Reservation in southern central New Mexico, which had been created by Presi-

dential proclamation. Hence its reference to the Committee on Indian Affairs instead of to the Public Lands Committee where it belongs. Incidentally it empowered the Secretary of the Interior to pick out the spots mentioned above for a national park. Incidentally, besides irrigation and water power, it introduced hunting, mining, grazing, lumbering and the leasing of mining and grazing privileges into the National Parks System.

In short it negated every feature by which law, the practise of half a century and the sentiment of practically the entire country distinguish national parks from every other form of Government reservations.

Also, it failed to specify that the park should be removed from the authority of the Water Power Act, thereby administering a sharp slap at the four million people, representing all the Congressional Districts of the country, who have been organized in defense of the System ever since Irrigation and Water Power interests combined to invade the National Parks System three years ago. If there were no other reason, this omission would demand its amendment or defeat.

### A Semi-Arid Region

The Mescalero Indian Reservation, which will contain most of the spots, is in southern central New Mexico in a semi-arid region crossed north and south by the Rio Grande River and two railroads to El Paso, Texas. One of these is a spur of the Santa Fe dropping south from Albuquerque. The other is the El Paso Southwestern connecting with the Chicago and Rock Island. The occasional towns are little desert settlements similar to those we see from the car windows on the Southern Pacific and Santa Fe roads, but smaller and farther apart. The reservation itself and the National Forests north and south of it contain some good stands of trees.

The Elephant Butte Reservoir is a Reclamation project. It occupies only about half of its allotted area, but it is the State's largest body of fresh water and El Paso's principal fishing resort. The country is arid except for willows and bushes by the water side.

Senator Bursum says the spots in the Indian reservation will be chosen in forested stream bottoms. They must be tiny spots to keep within an aggregate of three and an eighth square miles.

### How It All Came About

On June 7, 1922, the National Parks Association described and commented upon this bill in its Bulletin 28 and sent a copy to every Senator.

Copies of the bill, of course, had been sent to all Senators. But with the tariff on their hands, elections and the soldier bonus bothering them, and many hundred more bills on their files than ever could pass at the session, it is perfectly safe to assert that no Senators, except the two from New Mexico, read either the bill or Bulletin 28.

Meantime a copy of the bill was sent in due course to the Secretary of the Interior, who referred it for a report to the National Park Service. The Service investigated the region, but has not reported yet.

Secretary Fall, whose home is in New Mexico adjoining the reservation, did not wait for the National Park Service report, but approved the bill on June 14 in the following letter to Senator Spencer, Chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs, which explains much:

My Dear Senator Spencer: I have had upon my desk for report S. 3519. Since the introduction of this bill I have conferred with many of the Mescalero Apache Indians, as my home in New Mexico adjoins the reservation and I have known many of these Indians for 25 years.

They, as other Indians, are generally opposed to legislation affect-

ing, as many of them think, their rights. The Mescaleros are thoroughly in favor of the other provision of the bill which I have discussed very fully with their principal men and their council and delegates.

I stated to the Mescaleros that, before finally approving the adoption even of a substitute, I should redraft the bill, as there were some provisions in it which I could not approve, guarding, as I thought, more carefully the rights of these Indians, and I have so redrafted the bill and am herewith handing you such proposed substitute.

Meantime, following my statement to these Indians, I am today inclosing a copy of the proposed substitute to the agent at Mescalero that he may present the original bill and this proposed substitute therefor to the Indians and report to me their sentiments concerning same.

I am unhesitatingly stating to the agent for the benefit of the Indians that, in my judgment, the proposed legislation, if enacted through this substitute bill, will be more for the interests of the Mescaleros than any other legislation of recent years concerning other reservation Indians and their properties.

I am, therefore, giving the proposed substitute my personal endorsement, and I will without hesitation communicate to your committee, or to the committee of the House, the sentiment of the Indians upon the subject, when I have a report from them.

Very respectfully yours,

ALBERT B. FALL, Secretary.

### Senator Bursum Gets Very Busy

The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs consists of the following members:

Republicans	Democrats
Shelden P. Spencer of Missouri, Chairman	Henry F. Ashurst of Arizona
Charles Curtis of Kansas	Robert L. Owen of Oklahoma
Robert M. LaFollette of Wis.	Thomas J. Walsh of Montana
Charles L. McNary of Oregon.	John B. Kendrick of Wyoming
J. W. Harrel of Oklahoma	
Ralph H. Cameron of Arizona	
Edwin F. Ladd of North Dakota	

It is doubtful whether any of these overbusy committee members bothered even to inform themselves about a bill affecting Indians and national parks which had been personally redrafted by the Secretary of the Interior, who has administrative charge of both classes of reservations. It was one of the few bills which could be taken for granted. So it was reported June 30, the Friday before the Fourth.

On July 5, Senator Spencer received a second letter from the Secretary of the Interior, as follows:

My Dear Senator: My administrative assistant has just prepared a letter to you, submitting same to me, concerning the Mescalero Indian bill which is before your committee.

Some time since I made a report to your committee, submitting a redraft of the bill and stating that I had forwarded same to the agent at Mescalero for submission to the Indians on the reservation, that they might discuss same and signify their desires.

You will note that this discussion has been held and that the redrafted bill received the unanimous support of all the Indians, there being in attendance 90 per cent of the adult Indians when such action was taken.

From my knowledge of conditions, I expected such result; but I was anxious to have the Indians fully consulted so that there might be obviated any difficulties arising from the suggestion of outside parties who often claim to know more of the Indian business than is known by the Indians themselves, the Bureau of Indian Affairs; the Department of the Interior, or the Committees on Indian Affairs of the Senate and House.

I can now respectfully urge the immediate adoption of the bill under discussion.

Very sincerely yours,

ALBERT B. FALL, Secretary.

In the Senate, meantime, the bill had been duly entered at the bottom of the calendar. On July 7, at the close of Senator LaFollette's tariff speech, Senator Bursum asked "unanimous consent to take up a bill which is purely local in its character and affects only New Mexico." We quote from the Congressional Record.

In the House, bills must take their turn on the calendar, but the Senate's rules permit them to be called up at any time, with unanimous consent. In this case no one objected.

### The "Debate" in the Senate

The title of the bill was then read but not the text.

Senators Robinson, Overman, Smoot and Walsh of Montana asked Senator Bursum questions about it which showed their ignorance of anything but its general nature, and he answered briefly. Most of the questions concerned the Indian reservation part of the bill. Of the few questions concerning the apparently incidental national park part of the bill, nearly all were inspired by the fear that appropriations would be asked to develop the park.

"I am not asking a cent now," explained Senator Bursum, "all I want the Senate to do is to pass the bill and it will save me writing at least a hundred letters in the next twenty or thirty days."

Senator Bursum did not mention the spots in the Indian reservation, and naturally nobody asked since we do not make national parks that way.

Senator Bursum did not mention the three spots that lay from thirty-eight to ninety miles from the main bunch of reservation spots, and naturally nobody asked about them, for we do not make national parks that way.

Senator Bursum did not mention the fact that the reservoir would bring irrigation and water power into the National Park System, and naturally no one asked because nobody had heard yet about the reservoir.

Finally the bill was read rapidly and the committee's motion to substitute Secretary Fall's new text was adopted. There was no further discussion and the bill was passed. Nobody seemed interested except Senator Bursum. Even his colleague from New Mexico, Senator Jones, wasn't present.

### A Lame Duck National Park

If New Mexico really wants parks made in these dozen or more isolated spots, she ought to have them, provided that they are not made national parks. There are other kinds of parks, not founded on the principle of complete conservation.

New Mexico ought to have these other kind of parks, and a national park besides, but her national park should be one that will maintain her dignity as a State among the national park States. The "Spotted" National Park would ill compare with her neighbor's, Arizona's, Grand Canyon National Park; or with Colorado's, or Utah's, or Wyoming's, Idaho's, and Montana's world-challenging national parks.

If this bill should become law, New Mexico's national park, beautiful as those wooded spots doubtless are, would be the Lame Duckling of the National Park System, looked contemptuously upon by the world of travel, and presently by her own people; for it would not "belong." What might be an altogether admirable park of another kind would be pitifully under-class in the great company of the National Parks System.

### The National Parks Invite New Mexico

All America waits to welcome New Mexico into the company of national parks States, and she has the scenery to command the admiration of the world.

She has four or five of the most striking national monu-

ments, and much of the most wonderful desert in America. The most distinguished remains of the Spanish invasion which was by far the earliest occupation of America, are hers, besides many impressive relics of prehistoric peoples. She has lofty magnificent mountains, and brilliant, vivid, extraordinary canyons. An important group of distinguished painters, assembling yearly, have made her scenery world-famous in art. Her Taos Range and her Pecos Range are both celebrated for their magnificence.

New Mexico possesses the exalted regions for one or more of the great national parks of the System.

### The Future of the Bill

The Mescalero bill, as passed by the Senate, will be referred to a committee in the House as soon as the House reconvenes on August 15. The reference probably will be to the House Committee on Indian Affairs but it may go to the Public Lands Committee which has passed on all national park legislation since the beginning of the Service.

The House Committee on Indian Affairs consists of the following Representatives:

#### Republican

Homer P. Snyder, of New York,  
Chairman  
Philip P. Campbell of Kansas  
Royal C. Johnson of So. Dakota  
Frederick W. Dallinger of Mass.  
Albert W. Jefferis of Nebraska  
R. Clint Cole of Ohio  
John Reber of Pennsylvania  
Alice M. Robertson of Oklahoma  
E. O. Leatherwood of Utah  
Nestor Montoya of New Mexico  
L. M. Gensman of Oklahoma  
Sidney C. Roach of Missouri  
W. J. McCormick of Montana  
Olger B. Burtness of No. Dakota  
Dan A. Sutherland of Alaska

#### Democrat

Carl Hayden of Arizona  
William J. Sears of Florida  
Zebulon Weaver of No. Carolina  
F. B. Swank of Oklahoma  
Ross A. Collins of Mississippi  
Hampton P. Fulmer of So. Car.  
Morgan G. Sanders of Texas

### The Public Lands Committee is:

#### Republican

Nicholas J. Sinnott, of Oregon,  
Chairman  
Addison T. Smith of Idaho  
Hays B. White of Kansas  
William N. Vaile of Colorado  
Henry E. Barbour of California  
John S. Benham of Indiana  
John W. Summers of Washington  
Don B. Colton of Utah  
Nestor Montoya of New Mexico  
Olger B. Burtness of No. Dakota  
W. M. Morgan of Ohio  
Lon A. Scott of Tennessee  
W. J. McCormick of Montana  
Charles L. Faust of Missouri  
Dan A. Sutherland of Alaska

#### Democrat

John E. Raker of California  
Carl Hayden of Arizona  
Robert L. Doughton of No. Car.  
William W. Larsen of Georgia  
William J. Driver of Arkansas  
Ross A. Collins of Mississippi  
Lamar Jeffers of Alabama

No doubt an effort will be made to get it rushed through the committee and reported to the House, as it was to the Senate, without a day's unnecessary delay.

This bill should never leave the House Committee, whichever it may be, in anything like its present shape. The impossible and destructive national park part of it should be disentangled and dropped into the committee wastebasket, or else it should be made a federal park of a different classification.

1. The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the work during the year. It is a summary of the work done and the results obtained. It is a general statement of the work done and the results obtained.

2. The second part of the report deals with the work done during the year. It is a summary of the work done and the results obtained. It is a general statement of the work done and the results obtained.

3. The third part of the report deals with the work done during the year. It is a summary of the work done and the results obtained. It is a general statement of the work done and the results obtained.

4. The fourth part of the report deals with the work done during the year. It is a summary of the work done and the results obtained. It is a general statement of the work done and the results obtained.

5. The fifth part of the report deals with the work done during the year. It is a summary of the work done and the results obtained. It is a general statement of the work done and the results obtained.

6. The sixth part of the report deals with the work done during the year. It is a summary of the work done and the results obtained. It is a general statement of the work done and the results obtained.

7. The seventh part of the report deals with the work done during the year. It is a summary of the work done and the results obtained. It is a general statement of the work done and the results obtained.

8. The eighth part of the report deals with the work done during the year. It is a summary of the work done and the results obtained. It is a general statement of the work done and the results obtained.

9. The ninth part of the report deals with the work done during the year. It is a summary of the work done and the results obtained. It is a general statement of the work done and the results obtained.

10. The tenth part of the report deals with the work done during the year. It is a summary of the work done and the results obtained. It is a general statement of the work done and the results obtained.

11. The eleventh part of the report deals with the work done during the year. It is a summary of the work done and the results obtained. It is a general statement of the work done and the results obtained.

12. The twelfth part of the report deals with the work done during the year. It is a summary of the work done and the results obtained. It is a general statement of the work done and the results obtained.



